



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry

P.O. Box 11329 • Columbia, SC 29211
Phone: 803-896-4681 • Fax: 803-896-4719
www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Opticians/



REQUIREMENTS FOR A SOUTH CAROLINA LICENSE TO PRACTICE OPTICIANRY:

- Graduate from an accredited high school or receive a GED certificate.
- Pass the American Board of Opticianry (ABO) Examination.
- Pass the South Carolina Practical Opticianry Examination administered by The Learning Curve.
- Complete **ONE** of the following four listed requirement options:
 1. Complete the South Carolina Registered Apprenticeship Program under a state licensed optician, optometrist or ophthalmologist. **One of the pre-approved formal optical education programs must be completed prior to sitting for the S.C. Practical Examination.** The pre-approved programs are: National Academy of Opticianry Career Progression Program, Durham Technical Community College Optical Apprentice Certificate, Penn Foster Career School training program for opticians, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Optical Sciences Eyeglasses Diploma.
 2. Graduate from a two-year ophthalmic dispensing program accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation.
 3. Hold a **current**, in good standing, optician's license from another licensing state.
 4. Have been employed at least two years as an optician in a state that does not license opticians; must document employment.

The S.C. Practical Examination is administered by The Learning Curve. Upon receipt at the Board's office of the application, a letter is sent to the applicant providing information concerning how to register for the examination with The Learning Curve. ***The Learning Curve will provide candidate with all examination information.***

Examination Date / Location: December and June of every year / 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Licensure Application Fee: \$25 payable to S.C. Opticianry Board – submit with application form to Board office

S.C. Practical Examination Fee: \$295 money order / certified check payable to The Learning Curve

DO NOT SEND the \$295 examination fee to the Board office; send only to The Learning Curve.

ONLY a MONEY ORDER or CERTIFIED CHECK will be ACCEPTED by THE LEARNING CURVE.

APPLICANT:

- Submit the Opticianry Licensure Application to the Board's office no later than thirty days prior to the examination. Submitting this application **DOES NOT** register you for the practical examination.
- Enclose a copy of your driver's license and if applicable, a copy of all immigration documents. See instructions for completing the Affidavit of Eligibility.
- Enclose a copy of your Social Security Card.
- Include the non-refundable \$25 application fee by check or money order made payable to the S.C. Opticianry Board. Checks returned for insufficient funds will incur a \$30 fee.
- Enclose proof of high school graduation, or college transcript or diploma, or GED certificate.
- Enclose the American Board of Opticianry (ABO) Examination proof of passage; their number is 703-719-5800.
- If qualifying by completion of the S.C. Registered Apprenticeship Program, enclose proof of completion of the required formal education unless previously submitted. See number 1 above.
- Enclose any required explanatory documents.
- Request a license verification to be submitted from all states in which you have ever held an optician's license.
- If qualifying by employment as an optician in a state that does not license opticians, proof of employment must be submitted.

Send the licensure application to:

South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry
PO Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329

Telephone: 803-896-4681 **FAX:** 803-896-4719 missy.jones@llr.sc.gov

Or you may complete and submit your application online at www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Opticians

A copy of the S.C. Opticianry Practice Act and Regulations can be obtained from the website at www.lironline.com. Select Professional Licensing Boards, Opticianry, then on right side of screen select Board Information/Laws and Policies.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A CONTACT LENS DISPENSING LICENSE:

- Have a current South Carolina optician's license.
- Pass the National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE) examination; must document passage.
- Submit a completed Contact Lens Dispensing License Application along with the \$25.00 fee.